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Maine Writers Correspondence

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October 2015

Beatrice Hussey Oakes Correspondence

Beatrice Hussey Oakes 1916-

Hilda McLeod
Maine State Library

Hilda McLeod Jacob
Maine State Library

Maine State Library

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HUSSEY, Beatrice

see

OAKES, Beatrice Hussey

OAKES, Beatrice Hussey

1916-

May 4, 1936

Beatrice Hussey
Elm Court
Waterville, Maine

Dear Miss Hussey:

It is with pleasure that we have noticed mention of your brochure, SOLO FLIGHT, in the Waterville Sentinel. Please accept our congratulations upon your literary debut.

Possibly you are familiar with the Maine Author Collection. Some years ago it was started, and now numbers several hundred inscribed volumes, gathered together for exhibit purposes only, and written by those born in Maine, or who have lived here or written about the state. Most of the books are presented, and the collection increases steadily in size and worth, forming a most interesting and valuable background of Maine literature.

We are always eager to welcome a new writer to our list, and we hope you will want to inscribe a copy of SOLO FLIGHT for the Maine Author Collection. We also maintain a biographical file, and our authors have very kindly contributed brief biographical sketches for this purpose. Would you be willing to write for us a few paragraphs of this nature?

We assure you that we appreciate the generosity of our writers, without which the Maine Author Collection could not hope for complete success, and we hope that we may include SOLO FLIGHT in the near future.

Very truly yours

Maine State Library

7 Elm Court,
Waterville, Me.,
May 7, 1936.

Hilda McLeod
Maine State Library
Augusta, Maine.

Dear Madam;

I am happy to include my brochure, SOLO FLIGHT, in the Maine Author Collection. I fear that my biographical sketch will have to be brief, as my twenty years have been rather uneventful except for the bit of writing that I have done. I am Maine born, and have never lived outside this state. Am a graduate of Oak Grove School for Girls in the class of 1932, and since 1933 have been Secretary-Treasurer of the Waterville Poets Club. The following list includes a few of the publications in which my verse has appeared; Portland Evening News, Hartford Times, Paterson Morning Call, Sunday Oregonian, Blue Moon, Poetry World, Kaleidograph, Spinners, Bozart-Westminster, American Friend, Anthology of Magazine Verse for 1934, American States Anthology, 1935, Galleon Press, New York City and Sparks Afar, Kaleidograph Press, 1936.

May the success of the Maine Author Collection continue!

Most sincerely,

Beatrice Hussey

May 8, 1936

Beatrice Hussey
7 Elm Street
Waterville, Maine

Dear Miss Hussey:

SOLO FLIGHT has reached us, and we thank you for your delightful inscription of the gift.

Your poetry is remarkable in its maturity of beauty and strength, and we extend our congratulations and very sincere wishes for continued success.

A new poet is always a happy occasion, and we are particularly glad to welcome you to the roster of Maine authors.

Please accept our cordial invitation to visit the library and the Maine Author Collection when you are in Augusta.

Very truly yours
Maine State Library

hm

Secretary

March 11, 1953

Mrs. Beatrice Hussey Oakes
469 Brighton Avenue, Apt. 10
Portland, Maine

Dear Mrs. Oakes:

Congratulations upon the publication of MAINE LEGEND, which we anticipate with unusual pleasure, remembering your early work, SOLO FLIGHT. The brief newspaper article did not mention the publisher, nor the price. We shall want to order a copy for the library, of course, and so we would very much appreciate having this information.

Do you remember the Maine Author Collection? You presented a copy of SOLO FLIGHT to this exhibit of the work of Maine writers, and we hope that you will want to do so with MAINE LEGEND.

We will note its publication in the spring issue of the Bulletin of the Maine Library Association, so that all Maine librarians will know about the book. You have our very good wishes for its success.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection

newspaper clipping from PST 2.22.53

given to MAW

May 6, 1953

Mrs. Beatrice Hussey Oakes
216 Brighton Avenue
Portland, Maine

Dear Mrs. Oakes:

It was with eager anticipation that we received the two copies of your MAINE LEGEND, and we are delighted with the spirit and finish that this work shows. These poems are notably superior in feeling and perception to much that is being written as portraying Maine character, speech and background. We hope that it will have good publicity and wide distribution, for it is assuredly of true Maine flavor, and will appeal to all those who know the people and situations of which you write.

Thank you for presenting a copy to the Maine Author Collection. It is pleasant and satisfying to be able to add it to this exhibit, and we appreciate your interest.

The other copy will be cataloged and made available for lending -- though, of course, we hope that many readers will buy MAINE LEGEND. The bill for \$1.28 (three cents is postage, we assume, since we would not be subject, as a state department, to sales tax) will be approved, and you should have a check in a week or so. Thank you for taking care of the order.

We received MAINE LEGEND too late to include it in the Maine list in the spring issue of the Bulletin of the Maine Library Association; but it will be noted in the summer number. Good luck to it.

Sincerely yours

hmj

In Charge of
Maine Author Collection